GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3078
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2008
HIRING OF FOREIGN CO-PILOTS
Verma Shri Ravi Prakash;Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the domestic airlines have hired foreign co-pilots as reported in the Times of India dated March 3, 2008;

(b) if so, the facts and the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a glut of Indian co - pilots in the country;

(d) if so, the guidelines issued by the Government to the domestic airlines regarding recruitment of co - pilots; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to provide advance training to the co-pilots before they join the domestic airlines?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) and (b):- Yes, Sir. 134 foreign pilots have been engaged as co - pilots by various airline operators.

(c) and (d):- Yes, Sir. Due to recent growth in the aviation sector,many Indian youths are taking flying as profession.Directorate General of Civil Aviation has issued guidelines by way of Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR) Section 7,Series G, Part II dated 01.11.2006 which provides that for co-pilot functions,Indian pilots should be trained and employed by the operator.In case, the flight is required to be operated by foreign pilots acting as pilot in command and co-pilot,an Indian pilot is required to be on Board for the training/supernumerary flying.

(e):- The concerned airlines provide advanced training on the type of aircraft, possessed by them,as per the training manual duly approved by Directorate General of Civil Aviation.